

# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



#### S. MARTIN TEEL, JR.

Judge Teel was appointed to the United States Bankruptcy Court in February 1988 and was reappointed to a second 14-year term, effective in February 2002. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia, receiving a B.A. in economics in 1967 and a J.D. in 1970. Following law school, Judge Teel served as a law clerk to Judge Roger Robb of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. In 1971 Judge Teel joined the Tax Division of the Department of Justice where he served as an Assistant Chief of the Civil Trial Section from 1982 until his appointment to the Bankruptcy Court.

# OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE BANKRUPTCY COURT



Denise Curtis Clerk of Court

The Office of the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court provides service to the judiciary, bar, and public by managing cases and documents filed with the court. The Clerk's Office is responsible for the overall efficiency and accuracy of records and information processed in the court, and is responsible for accept-

ing documents, collecting appropriate fees, scheduling cases, providing courtroom coverage, responding to inquiries, and providing notice of landmark events to creditors. The Clerk's Office currently has a staff of 16 and is organized into three areas: administration, automation, and operations. The administrative area is responsible for finance, procurement, property management, personnel, and management of the court's budget. The administrative division also handles special projects, such as electronic case filing, statistical reports, and training.

The automation area develops and oversees the court's information systems, including the distributed computer network, telecommunications, and the national case management system. The automation division also supports initiatives such as quality control and training, and prepares statistical and ad hoc reports.

The operations area is responsible for receiving new cases and documents, docketing, records and case management, and providing courtroom services. This section also answers public inquiries and requests and serves as liaison to chambers and the bar for case-related matters.

# U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULES

Rule 83 of Title 28 of the United States Code permits each district to adopt local rules consistent with the Federal Rules. The court's Advisory Committee on Local Bankruptcy Rules was formed in 1985 to provide expert advice to the court as local rules are promulgated and changed. The committee, which is composed of local practitioners and U.S. Trustees, also acts as a vehicle for the receipt and submission to the court of comments on proposed rule changes. The current members of the Advisory Committee on Local Bankruptcy Rules are:

## Paul D. Pearlstein, Chair

Marc E. Albert David Lynn

Stephen J. Csontos Kevin R. McCarthy
Francis P. Dicello Cynthia A. Niklas
Mary Joanne Dowd William Douglas White

Dennis J. Early Daria J. Zane

Judge S. Martin Teel, Jr., Liaison

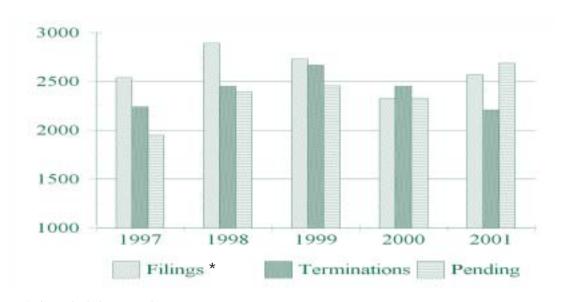
# U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT WORK LOAD INFORMATION

Following a six percent decrease in 1999, bankruptcy case filings decreased again in 2000 by 14.8 percent. In 2001, however, filings increased by 10.4 percent. The percentage of business filings to total filings decreased to 2.5 percent in 2000 and 1.8 percent in 2001. The percentage of consumer filings to total filings correspondingly increased to 97.5 percent in 2000 and 98.2 percent in 2001. In 1999 business filings comprised three percent of the total.

#### CASE LOAD SUMMARY 1999-2001

	1999	2000	Change	2001	Change
Filings*	2730	2326	-14.8%	2567	10.4%
Terminations	2666	2451	-8.1%	2208	-9.9%
Pending	2455	2330	-5.1%	2689	15.4%

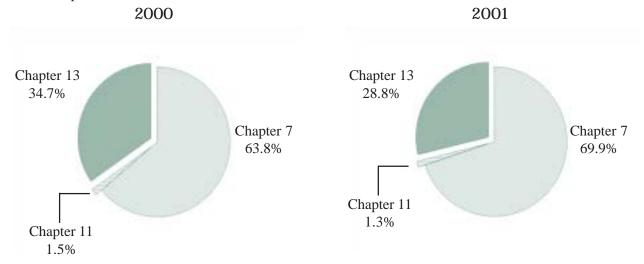
## CASE LOAD SUMMARY 1997-2001



<sup>\*</sup> Figures include reopened cases.

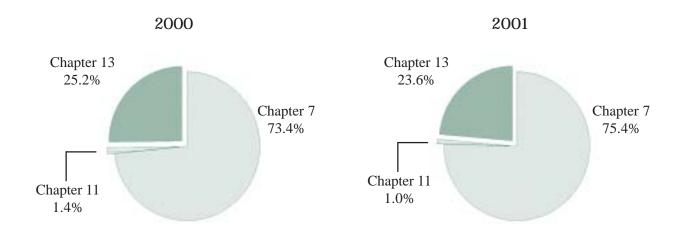
## **COMPOSITION OF FILINGS**

The composition of cases filed in 2000 and 2001 remained relatively consistent with previous years. Of the 2,326 cases filed in 2000, 1,484 were filed under Chapter 7; 34 were Chapter 11 filings; and 808 were Chapter 13 filings. In 2001, 2,567 cases were filed: 1,793 under Chapter 7, 34 under Chapter 11, and 740 under Chapter 13.



### BANKRUPTCY CASE TERMINATIONS

The total number of bankruptcy cases terminated decreased by 8.1 percent in 2000 and 9.9 percent in 2001. Of the 2,451 cases closed in 2000, 1,800 cases were Chapter 7; 34 cases were Chapter 11; and 617 cases were Chapter 13. In 2001, 2,208 cases were closed: 1,665 were Chapter 7, 22 were Chapter 11, and 521 were Chapter 13.



## PENDING BANKRUPTCY CASES

Of the 2,330 cases pending at the end of 2000 and the 2,689 cases pending at the end of 2001, the majority were Chapter 13 (1,874 in 2000 and 2,093 in 2001). There were 346 Chapter 7 cases pending at the end of 2000 and 474 at the end of 2001. Chapter 11 cases comprised the smallest percentage of the total pending case load, with 110 Chapter 11 cases pending at the end of 2000 and 122 at the end of 2001.

